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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF SACHETAN

EX PARTE

February 22, 1995

Mr. William F. Caton **Acting Secretary** Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W. Room 222 Washington, D.C. 20554

RE:

In the Matter of Price Cap Performance Review for Local Exchange Carriers

CC Docket No. 94-1

Dear Mr. Caton:

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL Yesterday representatives of Sprint Corporation met with Mr. Jim Casserly of Commissioner Susan Ness' office to discuss issues in the above referenced matter. Information on the attached, relative to Sprint's comments and reply comments submitted on May 9 and June 29, respectively, was discussed.

Representing Sprint Corporation were Jay Keithley and Jim Sichter. Sprint requests that this information be made a part of the record in this matter. If you should have any questions, please feel free to call.

Sincerely,

Jay C. Keithley Vice President

Law and External Affairs

Attachment

CC:

Jim Casserly

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Upfront Rate Reduction

- Equal to 1/2 of the difference between a LEC's 1991-1994 ROR and 11.25%
 - <u>Company specific</u> upfront reductions recognize each LEC's relative performance under first price cap plan
- Sharing of productivity gains from first price cap period
- Required of all price cap LECs (regardless of productivity choices under the second price cap plan)
- Approximately equal to a 2% upfront rate reduction industrywids

Productivity/Sharing Options

- Align productivity/sharing options to provide LECs incentive to elect progressively higher productivity offsets as their internal productivity increases
- Eliminate sharing/LFAM for LECs willing to opt for a high productivity factor
- LECs make an annual productivity election
 - But once a LEC opts for 4.5%/no sharing, no reversion to lower productivity factor

Proposed Productivity/Sharing Matrix

Productivity	Initial Sharing	50/50 Sharing	100% Sharing	
Selection	Threshold	Range	Range	LFAM
3.3%	11.75%	11.75 - 13.75%	>13.75%	10.25%
3.9%	12.25%	12.25 - 15.25%	>15.25%	10.25%
4.5%		No Sharing/LFAM		

Elimination of Sharing/LFAM

Makes consumers better off	 Assures substantial, permanent rate reductions (if the productivity factor is set at an appropriate level) Insulates consumers from LEC competitive losses and investment and pricing decisions
Critical to promoting access/local competition	 Diminishes incentives for cross-subsidization Eliminates regulatory "guarantee" that a LEC will recover all of its costs (including profits)
Establishes a framework that balances risks/rewards in a dynamic marketplace	 LECs bear risks of: Capital recovery New Services Competitive losses LECs reap benefits of: Innovation/new services Efficiency gains (greater than productivity offset) Greater (but not total) pricing flexibility
Reduces the administrative complexity of price cap regulation	Lessens the need for detailed regulatory intervention in competitive marketplace

Comparison of Price Cap Proposals

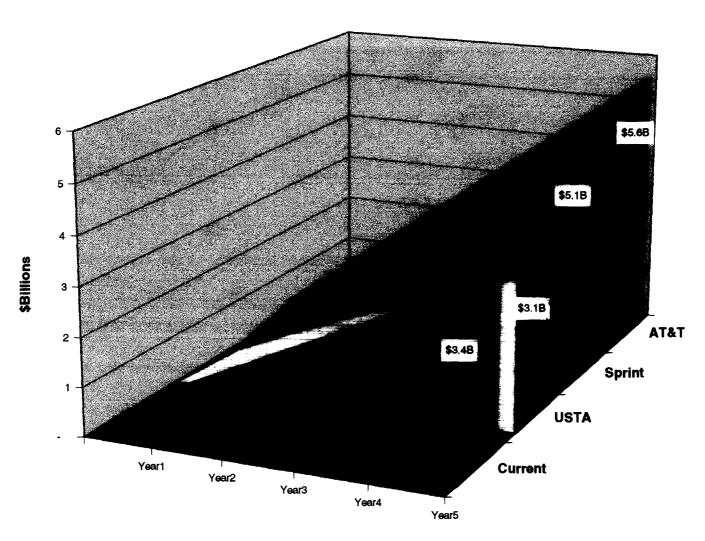
		Sharing Range		Upfront Rate	
	Productivity	50/50	100%	Reduction	
Current FCC Plan	3.3%	12.25-16.25%	> 16.25%	N/A	
	4.3%	13.25-17.25%	> 17.25%	N/A	
Sprint	3.3%	11.75-13.75%	> 13.75%		
	3.9%	12.25-15.25%	> 15.25%	Approximately 2% industrywide (varies by LEC)	
4	4.5%	None			
AT&T	5.1%	11.0-15.0%	> 15%	Approximately 1.6%	
Original USTA Plan	2.5%	None		None	
Revised USTA Plan	3.3%	12.25-16.25%	> 16.25%	None	
I IGH	3.5% * (Rolling Average Productivity)	Nor	ae	1.0% (PCI reduction)	

^{*} Initial productivity factor of 2.5%, and a 1% CPD, which would be phased out over 3 years.

Sprint Price Cap Reform Plan

Comparison of Price Cap Proposals

Value of Reductions



Current: X = 3.3%

USTA: X = 2.5%, 1% up-front, CPD phase-out (no-sharing option)

Sprint: X = 4.5%, 2% up-front (no-sharing option)

ATT: X = 5.1%, \$322M up-front